

REMARKS

Claims 2-8 and 11-20 are pending in the application. Claim 1 has been canceled without prejudice. No new matter has been added. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections to the claims.

§103 Rejection

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Minko (U.S. Patent No. 5,963,551) in view of Shimoyama (U.S. Patent No. 6,643,496).

With this paper, claim 1 has been canceled, and therefore, the 103 rejection with respect to claim 1 is now moot. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the rejection be withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 2-8 and 11-20 have been deemed allowable by the Examiner. Accordingly, with the cancellation of claim 1 above, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims of the present application are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the claim rejection, and issue a notice of allowance. No amendment made was related to the statutory requirements of patentability unless expressly stated herein; and no amendment made was for the purpose of narrowing the scope of any claim, unless Applicant has expressly argued herein that such amendment was made to distinguish over a particular reference or combination of references.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles, California, telephone number (213) 623-2221 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

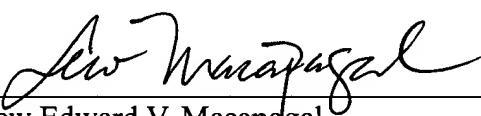
Respectfully submitted,

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P.C.

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